IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Kevin W. Moore et al.

Serial No.: 358,414

Filed: 3/15/82

For: HYBRID DNA PREPARED BINDING

COMPOSITION

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Examiner: J. Martine

Art Unit:

172

Palo Alto, CA 94304 March 17, 1983

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an enver perbudressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trade-3/17/83

marks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

4) m M. William M. Smith, Reg. No. 30,223

Date of Signature

In response to the official action dated February 17, 1983, Applicants respectfully submit the following:

REMARKS

The Examiner has requested election and restriction between Group I, namely Claims 1-19, and Group II, namely Claims 20-25. Applicants respectfully traverse the requirement, but hereby provisionally elect to prosecute Group II, reserving the right to file a divisional application to protect the invention of Group I.

Applicants do not concur with the Examiner's rationale for determining that two separate and distinct inventions exist. While it may be that the compositions of Group II are not. specifically defined by the methods of Group I, such compositions and methods are directed to the same general invention.

Claims 1-19 of Group I define methods for preparing a binding polypeptide, such as that included in the composition defined in Claims 20-25 of Group II. Other processes for preparing said binding polypeptide might exist (although absent additional details from the Examiner, applicants cannot be certain that "specific modification of IgG molecules" is such an alternative), but this is not conclusive as to whether or not the two claim groups cover divergent subject matter. The line of distinction made by the Examiner between the two claim groups is unwarranted, and both groups should remain in the same application to preserve unity of invention.